

# **MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION**

## **Quarterly Report on Admissions and Releases in the Massachusetts Department of Correction**

**Second Quarter 2013**





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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b>	.....	p.2
<b>Section 1. Current Population and Overall Trends</b>		
1.1	Custody and Jurisdiction Population.....	p.3
1.2	Jurisdiction Population by Commitment Type.....	p.3
1.3	Overall Admission and Releases.....	p.4
1.4	Admissions by Gender.....	p.4
1.5	Releases by Gender .....	p.5
<b>Section 2. Criminally Sentenced Admissions and Releases</b>		
2.1	Overall Criminal Admissions and Releases.....	p.5
2.2	Criminal Admissions and Releases by Gender .....	p.6
2.3	Male Criminal Admissions by Admission Code .....	p.6
2.4	Female Criminal Admissions by Admission Code .....	p.7
2.5	Male Criminal Releases by Release Code .....	p.7
2.6	Female Criminal Releases by Release Code .....	p.8
2.7	State Criminally Sentenced New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction..	p.8
<b>Section 3. Civilly Committed Admissions and Releases</b>		
3.1	Overall Civil Admissions and Releases .....	p.9
3.2	Civil Admissions and Releases by Gender.....	p.9
<b>Section 4. Pre-Trial Admissions and Releases</b>		
4.1	Overall Pre-Trial Admissions and Releases .....	p.10
4.2	Pre-Trial Admissions and Releases by Gender.....	p.10
4.3	Male Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction.....	p.11
4.4	Female Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction.....	p.11
<b>Appendix</b>	.....	p.12

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Trend Period: Second Quarter, 2011, through Second Quarter, 2013

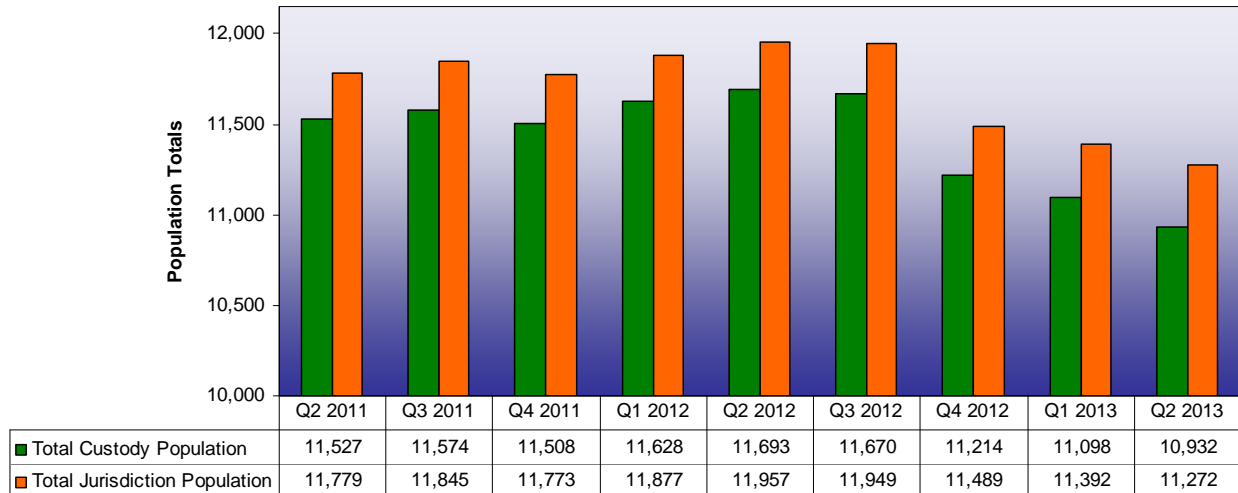
- The second quarter of 2013 saw a continuation of the decrease in MA DOC population begun in the third quarter, 2012.
- Based on quarterly averages for the nine quarters of the trend period, 88.9% of the **MA DOC jurisdiction populations** were criminally sentenced, 5.4% were civil commitments, and 5.7% were pre-trial detainees.
- During the trend period the **cumulative total admissions** were 23,309 and the **cumulative total releases** were 23,680, with the cumulative difference between admissions and releases resulting in a decrease of 371 inmates.
- Male inmates made up 59.8% of the total admissions and 60.3% of the total releases during the trend period.
- The overall difference between admissions and releases over the trend period resulted in female inmates decreasing by 34 while male inmates saw a decrease of 337 inmates.
- Based on the difference between admissions and releases, **criminally sentenced inmates** saw a cumulative decrease of 488 inmates. The fourth quarter of 2012 had the largest impact on this with a decrease of 333 inmates.
- **Male civil commitments** saw a cumulative decrease of 57 inmates during the past nine quarters. **Female civil commitments** saw a cumulative increase of 12 inmates.
- **Pre-trial detainees** saw increased numbers in both admissions and releases during the trend period resulting in a cumulative increase of 162 pre-trial inmates. More than half, 55.7%, of male pre-trials came from Suffolk County.

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## CURRENT POPULATION AND OVERALL TRENDS

The MA DOC populations, both jurisdiction and custody, saw a fourth straight period of decline during the second quarter of 2013. Prior to third quarter, 2012, there was a general increase in population. The fourth quarter of 2012 saw a large drop in population - mostly due to implementation of the Crime Bill and some issues regarding accuracy of testing at the Hinton Drug Lab. The continued drop during the first and second quarters of 2013 is at least partly due to the impact of these same events carrying forward into 2013.

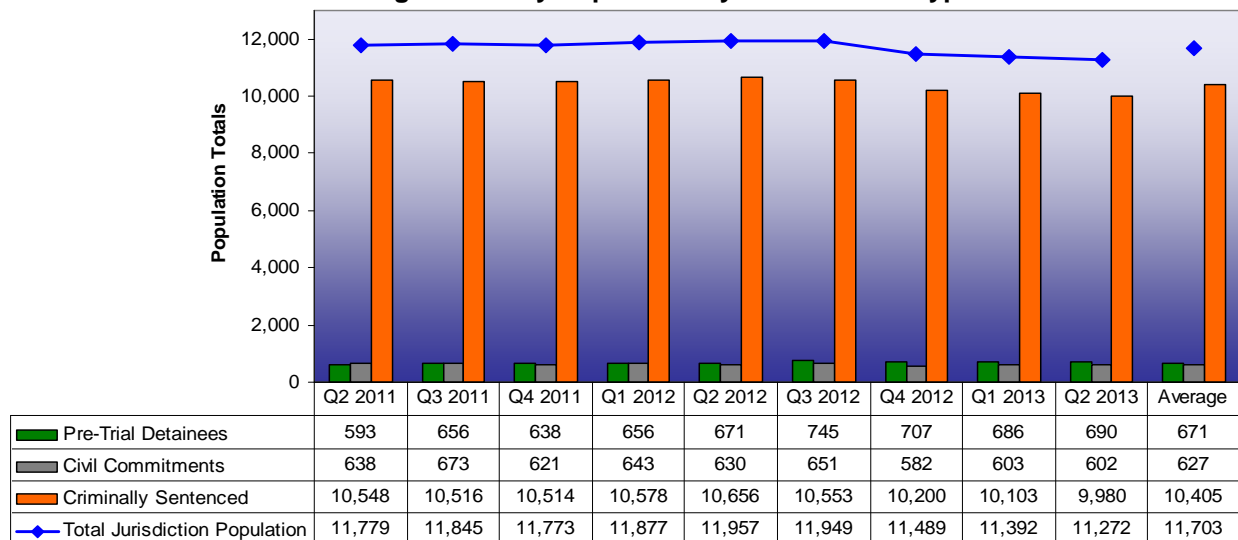
### 1.1 Average\* Quarterly Custody<sup>1</sup> and Jurisdiction<sup>2</sup> Population



\*Each quarter's population is the average of the three months within that quarter.

Continued population decreases were not seen across all commitment types in the MA DOC. During the second quarter of 2013 both criminally sentenced inmates and civil commitments saw a decrease from the previous quarter, by 1.2% and 0.2%, respectively, while pre-trial detainees saw a rise of 0.6%. Between the second quarter for 2012 and 2013, the criminally sentenced jurisdiction population decreased by 676 inmates, 6.3%.

### 1.2 Average Quarterly Population by Commitment Type

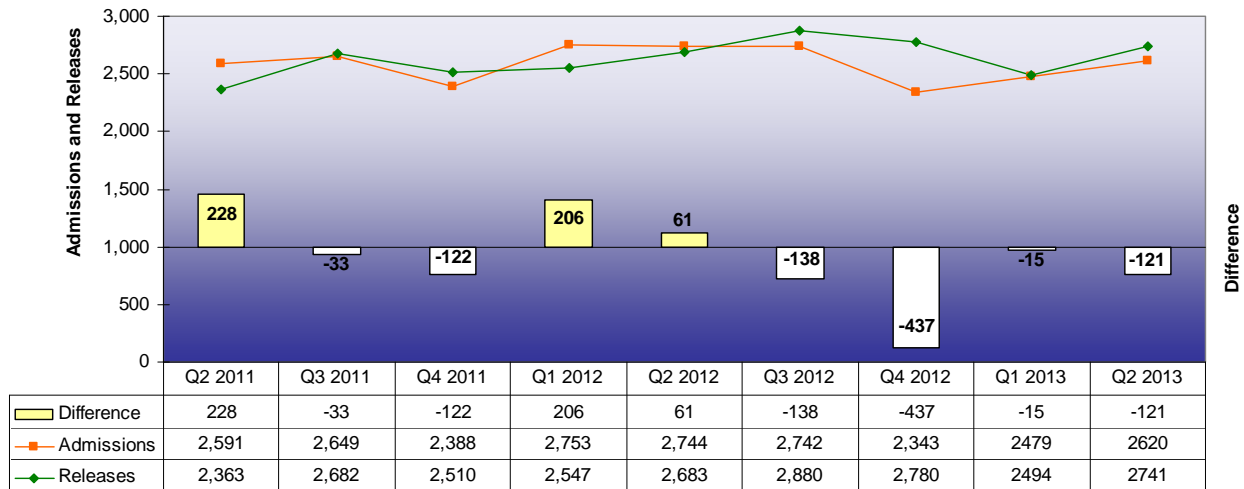


<sup>1</sup>Total MA DOC custody population includes criminally sentenced inmates, pre-trial detainees, and civil commitments in MA DOC facilities, excluding MA DOC inmates housed in other jurisdictions (i.e., County, Federal, or Out-of-state inmates).

<sup>2</sup>Total MA DOC jurisdiction population includes criminally sentenced inmates, pre-trial detainees, and civil commitments in MA DOC facilities and MA DOC inmates housed in county facilities, other state facilities, and federal facilities.

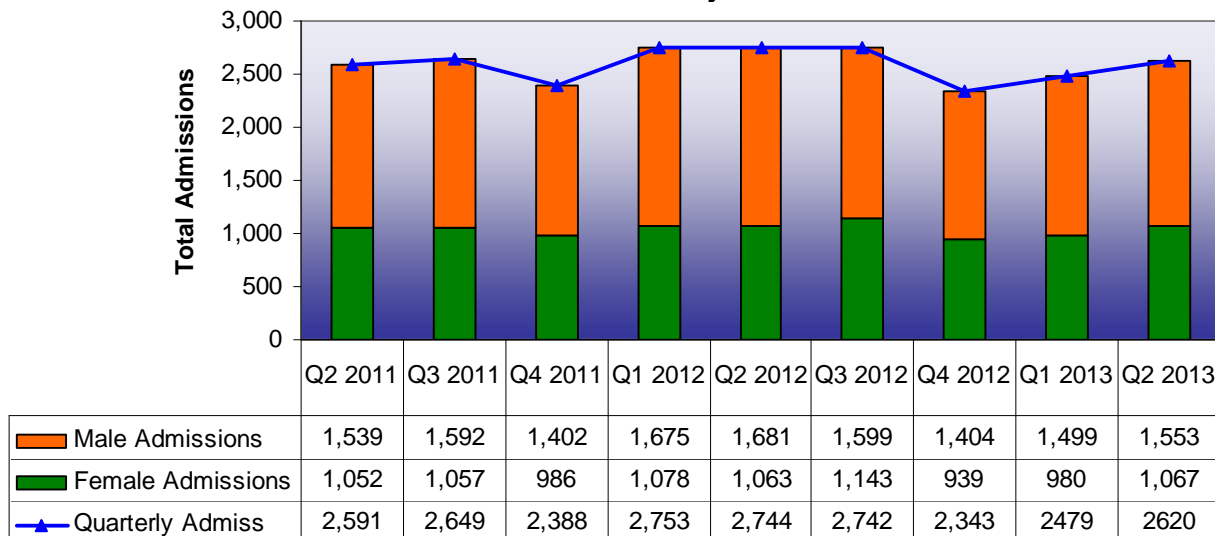
Over the past nine quarters the difference in the MA DOC population admissions and releases resulted in an average decrease of 41 inmates per quarter. Similarly, the cumulative difference over the trend period showed a decrease of 371 inmates; driven mostly by the second half of 2012.

### 1.3 Overall Admissions and Releases

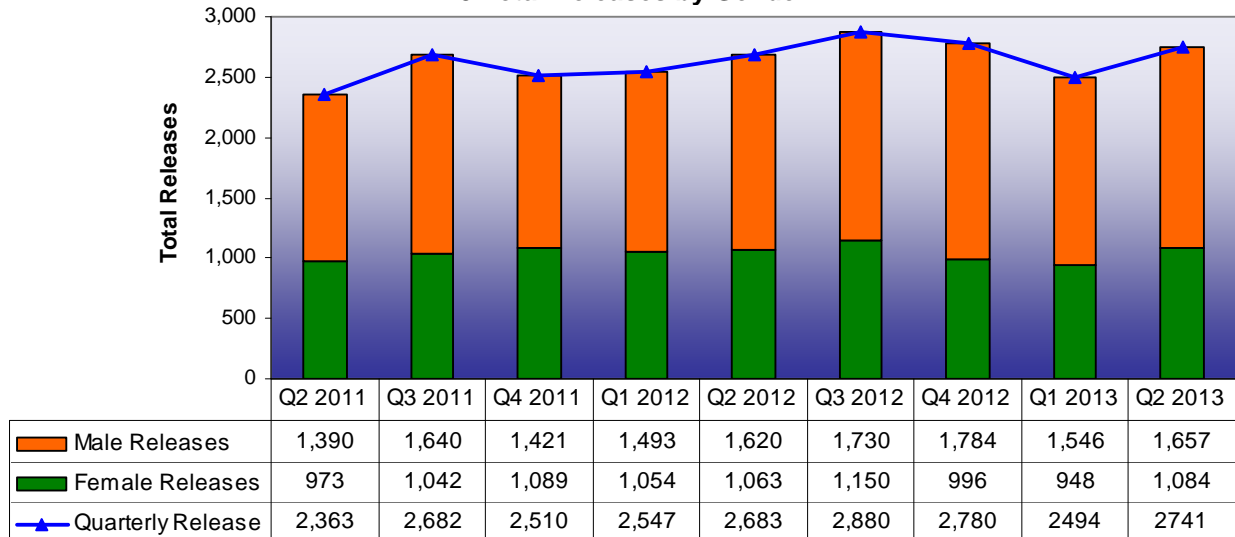


Throughout the trend period males made up the majority of the total admissions and release population with 59.8% of admissions and 60.3% of releases. For male inmates the difference between admissions and releases averaged a decrease of 37 inmates per quarter, with an associated, cumulative decrease of 337 inmates. Female inmates averaged a decrease of four inmates each quarter throughout the period, with a cumulative decrease of 34 inmates. Admissions, for both males and females, showed their third straight quarter of increase; up 5.7% from last quarter. Releases saw their first increase since third quarter 2012; up 9.9% from last quarter.

### 1.4 Total Admissions by Gender



### 1.5 Total Releases by Gender

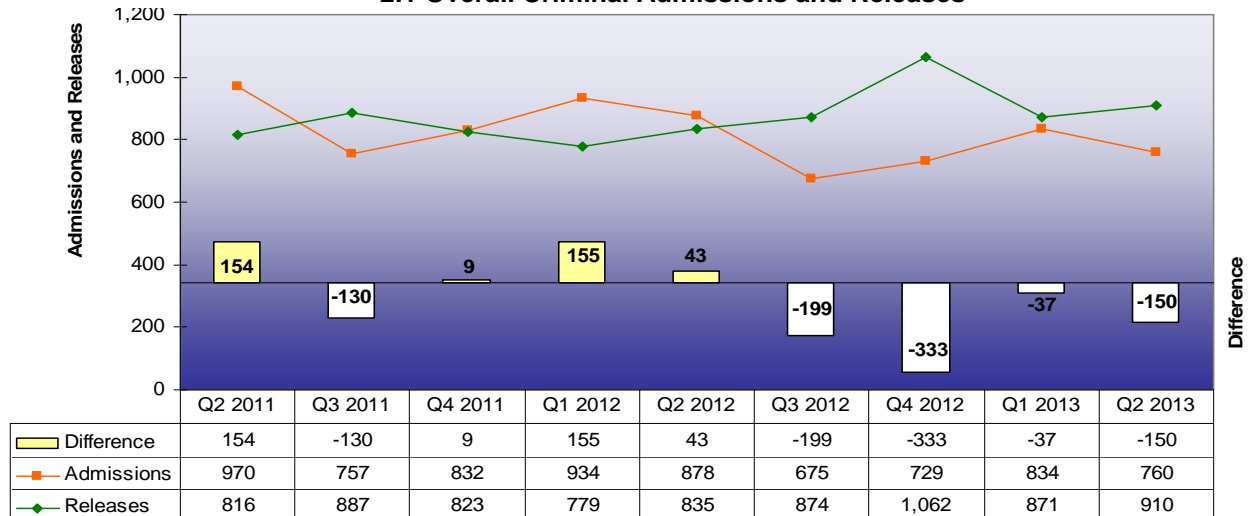


## CRIMINALLY SENTENCED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

The nine quarter period, second quarter 2011 through second quarter 2013, displayed an overall negative trend for admissions and an overall positive trend for releases. Comparing average admissions and releases for the 2013 fiscal year in relation to the 2012 fiscal year show opposite trends of similar strength; the average admissions saw a decrease of 11.8% just as average releases saw an increase of the same rate.

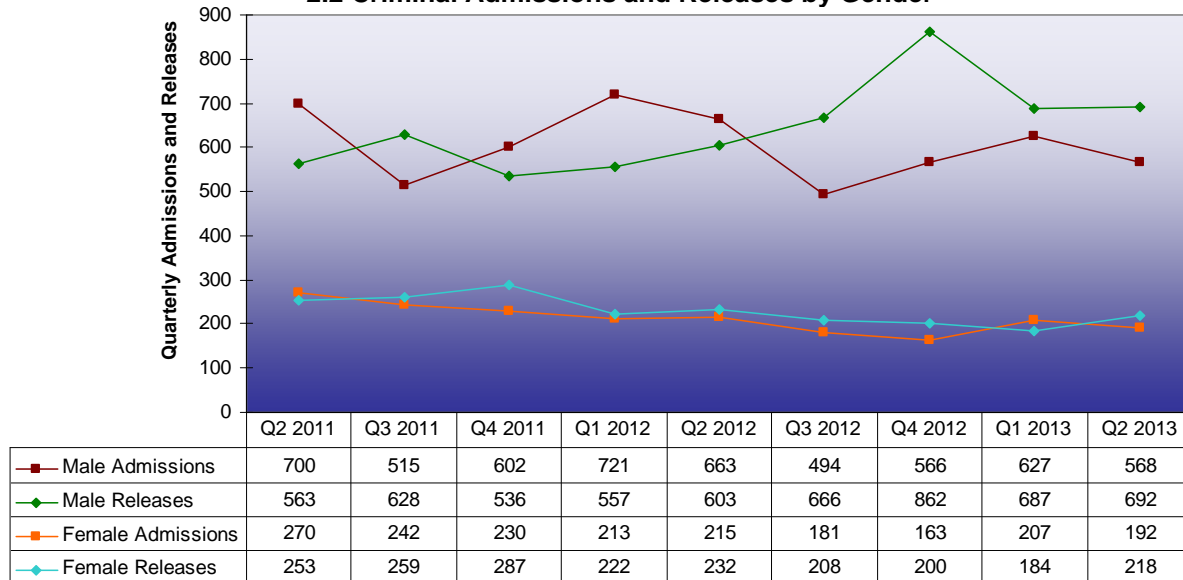
During this trend period the difference between admissions and releases showed a negative slope; averaging a decrease of 54 inmates each quarter, with an overall negative change of 488 criminally sentenced inmates.

### 2.1 Overall Criminal Admissions and Releases



During the nine quarter course of the trend period male criminally sentenced inmates followed trends very similar to the overall criminally sentenced population. This is largely due to males comprising 74.0% of criminal admissions and 73.7% of criminal releases. During this period female criminally sentenced admissions and releases both showed negative trends, with admissions showing a slightly stronger trend.

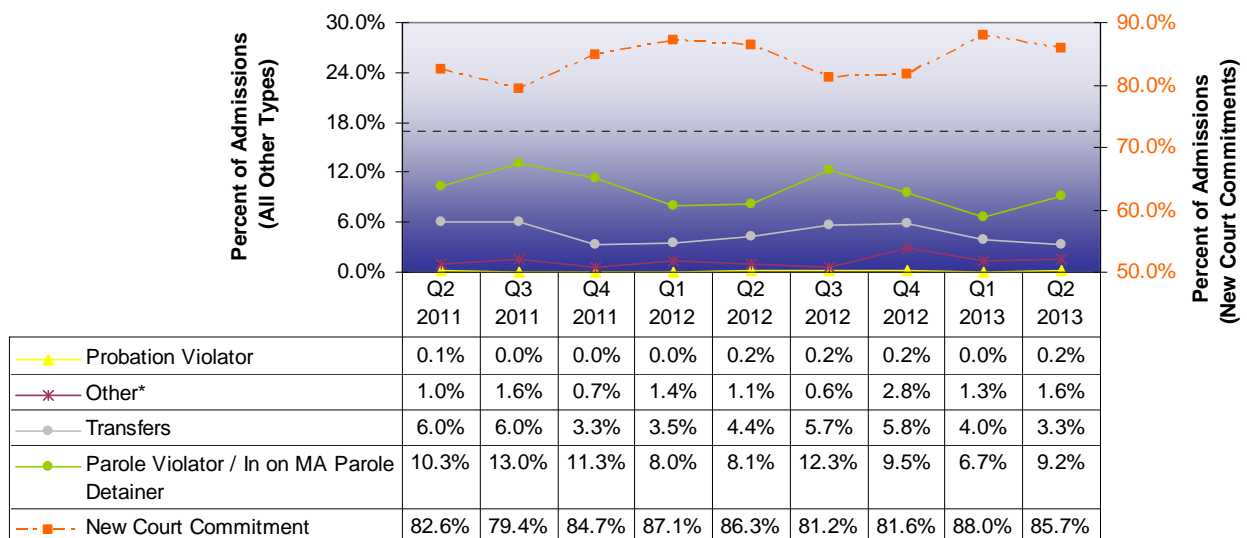
## 2.2 Criminal Admissions and Releases by Gender



Male criminal admissions by admission code, Table 2.3, are split into two axes, with 'New Court Commitments' represented on the right axis and all other admission codes represented on the left axis. New court commitments were the most common type male admission and averaged 84.1% each quarter during the trend period. The next two most common male admissions, 'Parole Violator/In on MA Parole Detainer' and 'Transfers', averaged 9.8% and 4.7% of admissions during the trend period, respectively.

The second quarter of 2013, in relation to the previous quarter, saw a numerical decline in new court commitments of 11.8%; this is greater than the 8.9% decrease during the same period in 2012 and the 3.0% decrease in 2011.

## 2.3 Male Criminal Admissions by Admission Type

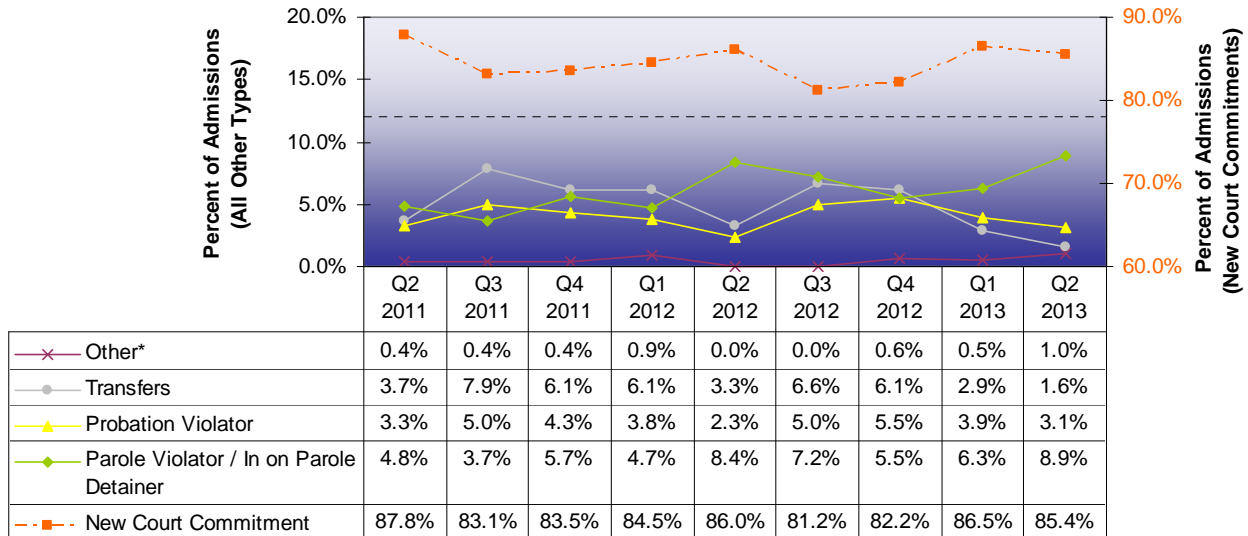


\*See Appendix for definition of Other



Female criminally sentenced admissions for the trend period were predominately new court commitments, with an average of 84.5%, followed by 'Parole Violator/In on Parole Detainer' and 'Transfers', with respective averages of 6.1% and 4.7%. The second quarter of 2013 showed the lowest rate of female criminal admissions due to transfers during the nine quarter trend period.

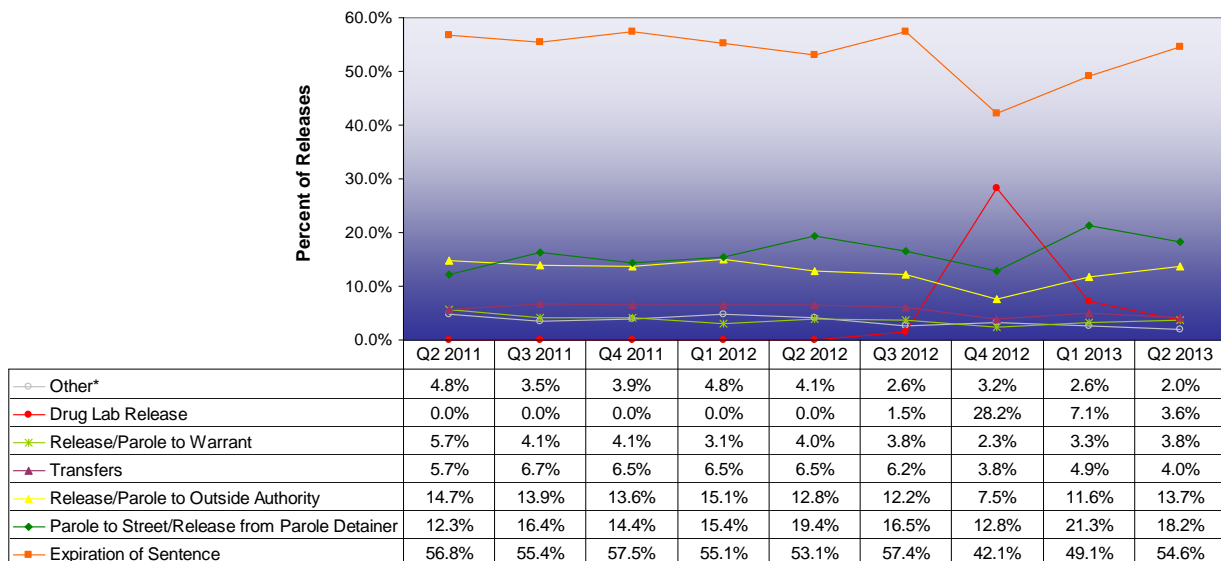
#### 2.4 Female Criminal Admissions by Admission Type



\*See Appendix for definition of Other

During the first six quarters of the trend period the male criminal release code rates were steady, with the most variable release type being 'paroles to the street/ release from parole detainer'. Fourth quarter of 2012 saw a marked change, mostly attributable to the Hinton drug lab situation, and contributing to a marked drop for expirations of sentence. The first and second quarters of 2013 saw additional changes, with 79 additional drug lab releases, and an increase in paroles to the street to the highest levels during the trend period. Second quarter 2013 shows a return to previous levels of expirations of sentence following the lower values over the previous two quarters.

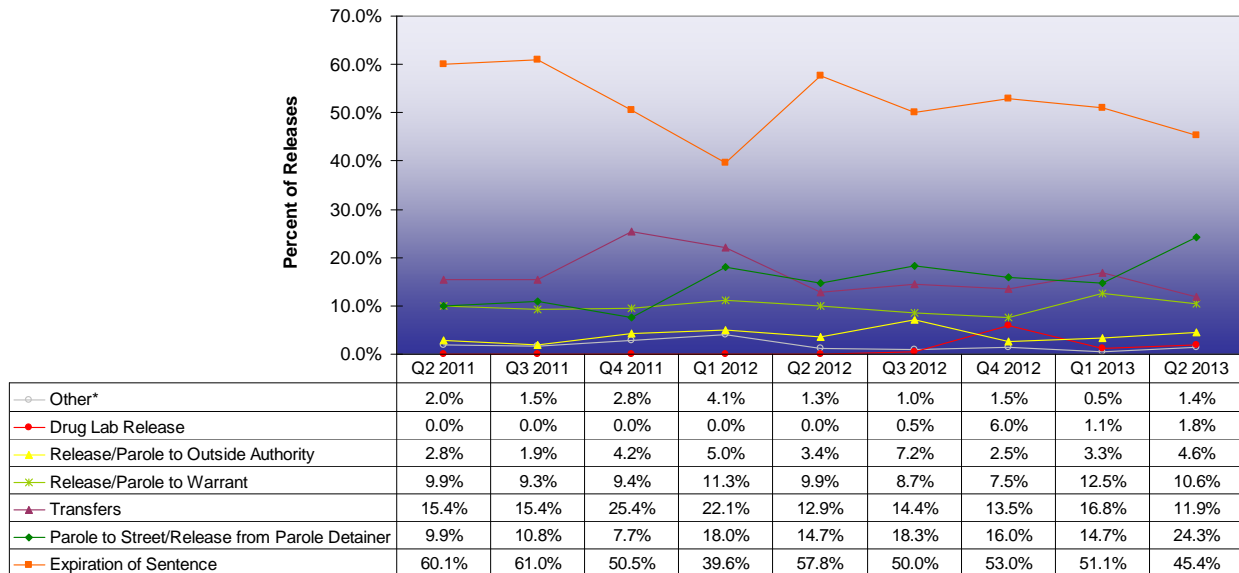
#### 2.5 Male Criminal Releases by Release Type



\*See Appendix for definition of Other

Female criminally sentenced releases for the trend period were due mostly to expiration of sentence, averaging 52.1%. The second most common release type was transfers to outside entities, averaging 16.4%. This release type mostly ran counter to expirations of sentence during this trend period. Notably, from fourth quarter 2011 through first quarter 2012, 51 County sentenced female inmates in DOC custody were transferred to a regional correctional center in Hampden County. Female paroles rose to their highest rate during the trend period, counter-balancing a decrease in expiration of sentence rates during the second quarter of 2013.

### 2.6 Female Criminal Releases by Release Type



\*See Appendix for definition of Other

On average Suffolk County accounted for 19.9% of the new court commitments followed by, Essex (13.4%), Hampden (12.6%), Worcester (12.5%), Bristol (12.1%), and Middlesex (12.1%).

### 2.7 State\* Criminally Sentenced New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

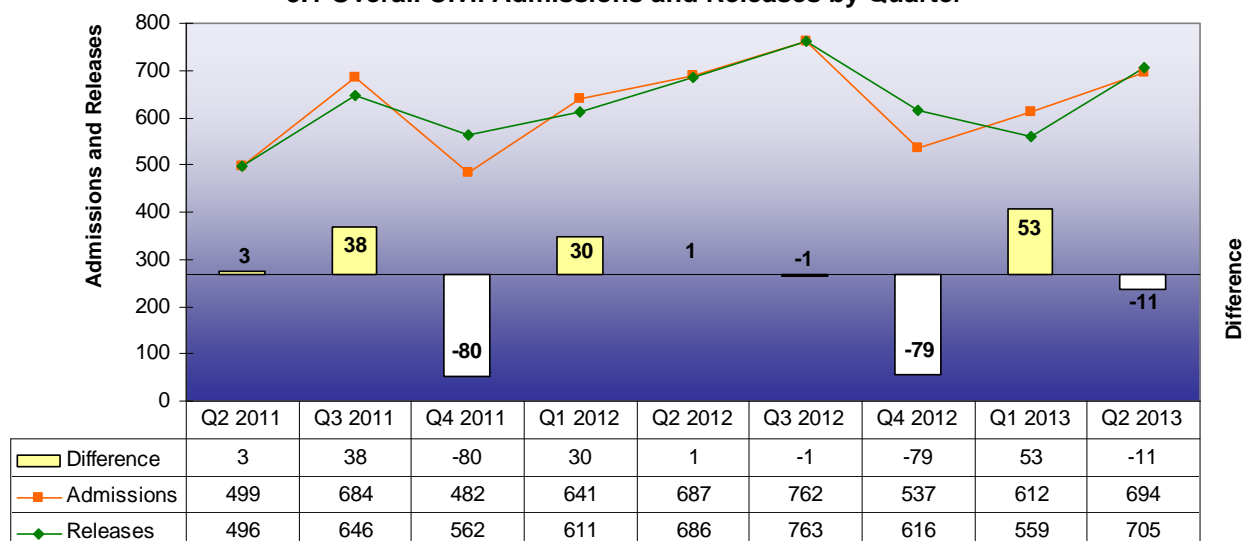
	Q2 2011	Q3 2011	Q4 2011	Q1 2012	Q2 2012	Q3 2012	Q4 2012	Q1 2013	Q2 2013	Total
Suffolk	131	99	97	108	119	76	83	95	119	927
Essex	81	61	83	67	92	52	52	75	61	624
Hampden	92	37	69	92	61	55	67	63	49	585
Worcester	103	40	58	62	66	39	78	65	71	582
Bristol	65	41	57	61	89	56	73	66	57	565
Middlesex	54	50	80	96	59	53	53	62	57	564
Plymouth	23	21	25	58	21	15	19	60	18	260
Norfolk	17	17	32	35	24	11	15	30	23	204
Barnstable	12	17	6	14	5	17	9	17	13	110
Berkshire	13	12	6	20	7	9	9	17	9	102
Franklin	9	3	3	10	16	6	2	11	6	66
Hampshire	6	8	4	8	5	7	9	5	5	57
Dukes	1	0	0	0	2	0	4	1	1	9
Nantucket	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	607	406	520	631	566	396	473	567	490	4656

\*excludes county inmates

## CIVILLY COMMITTED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

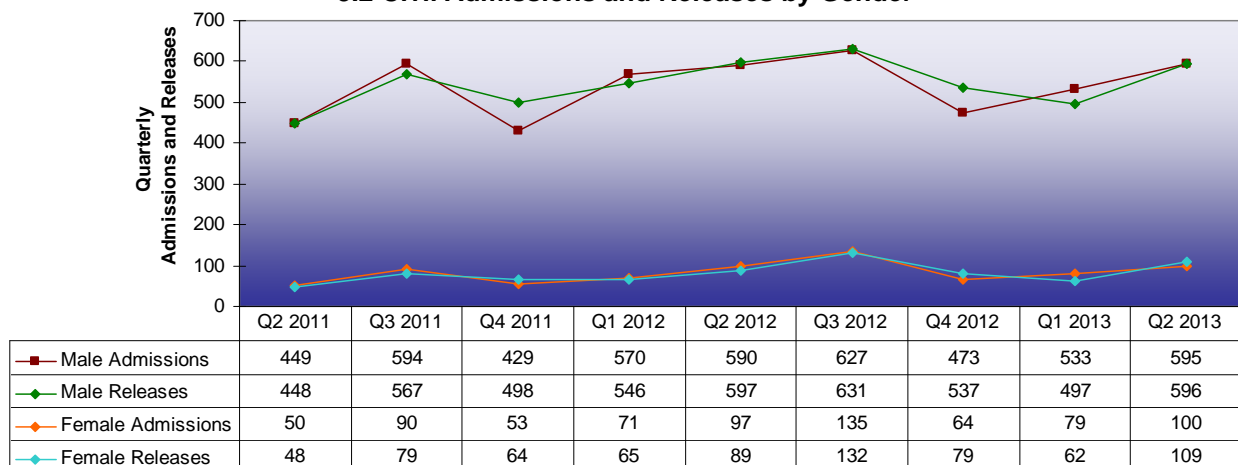
Both quarterly admissions and releases for civilly committed inmates had similar patterns throughout the trend period. A seasonal trend may be seen with a gradual rise in both admissions and releases over each year with a drop in both trends during each fourth quarter. Overall, both admissions and releases showed a positive trend with civil admissions averaging 622 inmates each quarter and releases averaging 627. During the trend period there was a cumulative decrease of 46 inmates due to the difference between admissions and releases.

### 3.1 Overall Civil Admissions and Releases by Quarter



Over the past nine quarters female inmates made up 12.9% of civil admissions and 1.6% of civil releases. Both males and females had general increases in admissions and releases during the trend period; however females saw an overall increase of 12 civilly sentenced inmates, while males saw an overall decrease of 57 civilly sentenced inmates.

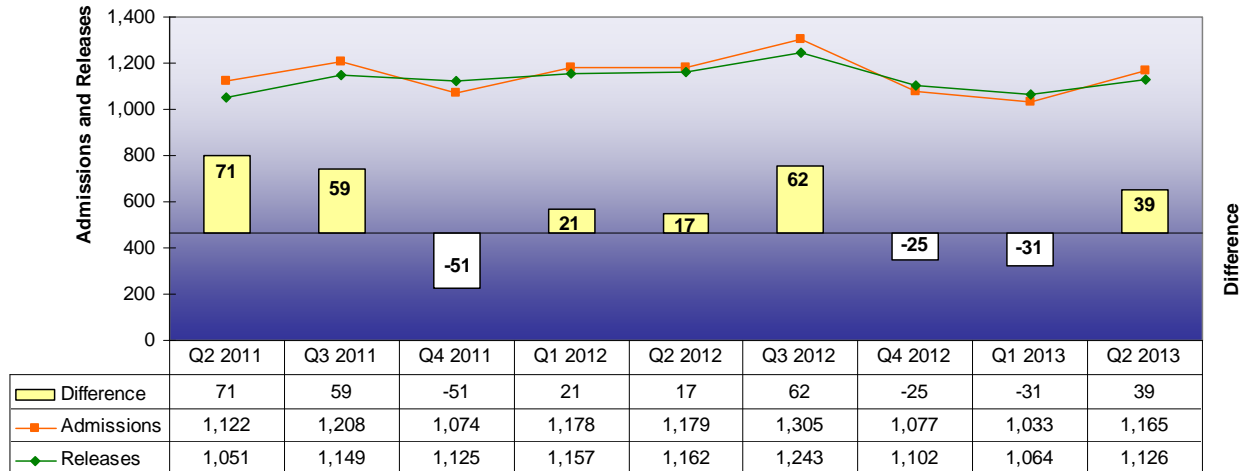
### 3.2 Civil Admissions and Releases by Gender



## PRE-TRIAL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

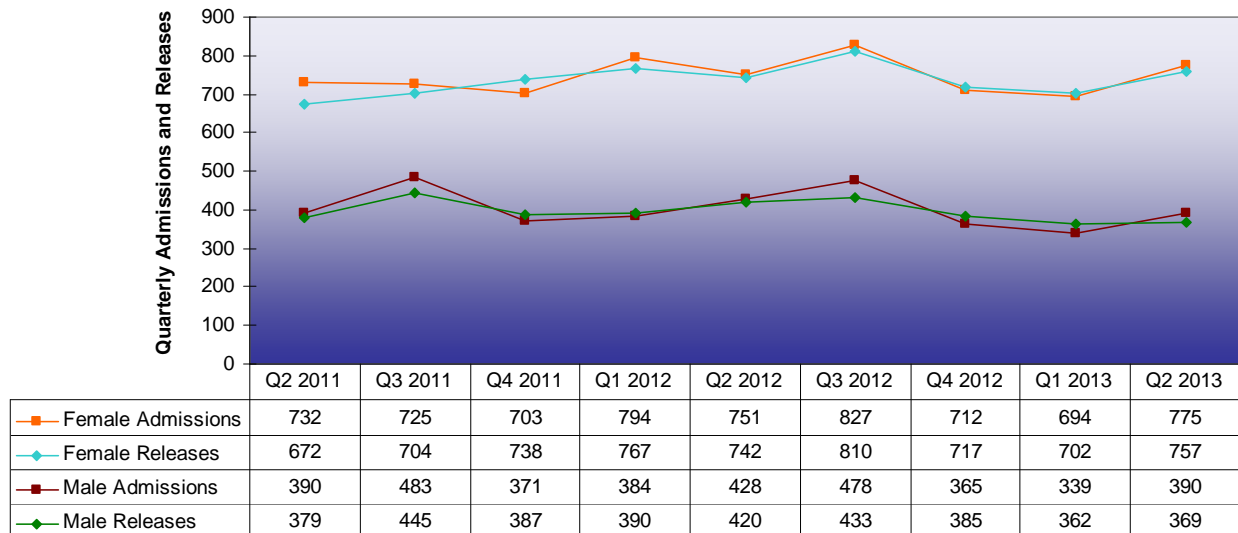
Pre-trial admissions and releases remained mostly even throughout the trend period, though admissions have shown a slight negative trend and releases a slight positive trend. Pre-trial admissions averaged 1,149 per quarter, releases averaged 1,131, and there was a cumulative increase of 162 pre-trial detainees over the trend period.

### 4.1 Overall Pre-Trial Admissions and Releases by Quarter



Over the trend period female pre-trial detainees saw more movement than male detainees with slightly positive trend lines for both admissions and releases. Male pre-trial detainees, in contrast, saw overall negative trends in both admissions and releases. For this period females increased by 104 detainees and males increased by 58.

### 4.2 Pre-Trial Admissions and Release by Gender



For the trend period the majority of male pre-trial admissions came from the counties of Suffolk and Middlesex; the rate for these two counties averaged 55.7% and 28.9%, respectively. There were some notable points within the data: Suffolk had its lowest pre-trial admissions during fourth quarter 2012, being the only quarter where it made up less than half of the admissions, at 46.3%. During the second quarter of 2013, Suffolk County had its second highest pre-trial admission rate for the trend period at 58.2%. Middlesex saw the opposite trend during the second quarter, 2013, with its second lowest pre-trial admissions at 25.6% for that quarter; the previous two quarters had the two highest rates for Middlesex.

#### 4.3 Male Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction

	Q2 2011	Q3 2011	Q4 2011	Q1 2012	Q2 2012	Q3 2012	Q4 2012	Q1 2013	Q2 2013	Total
Suffolk	231	272	208	215	236	266	169	197	230	2024
Middlesex	101	133	109	111	124	118	141	104	101	1042
Out-of-State	18	25	20	19	22	20	25	15	23	187
Worcester	24	16	13	18	19	17	9	9	11	136
Federal	6	18	3	2	15	40	10	5	6	105
Plymouth	3	7	4	7	9	5	6	4	9	54
Norfolk	3	8	5	3	1	3	0	0	3	26
Bristol	3	2	5	4	1	5	1	2	8	31
Essex	1	2	2	3	1	1	3	3	3	19
Barnstable	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	5
Hampden	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Berkshire	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Mass Parole	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	390	483	371	384	428	478	365	339	395	3633

For the trend period, 99% of female pre-trials came from the counties of Essex, Worcester, Middlesex, Norfolk, or Plymouth; with 27.6% coming from Essex, 23.2% coming from Worcester, and 21.2% coming from Middlesex. Over most of the trend period the rate of female pre-trials for each of these counties tended to increase.

#### 4.4 Female Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction

	Q2 2011	Q3 2011	Q4 2011	Q1 2012	Q2 2012	Q3 2012	Q4 2012	Q1 2013	Q2 2013	Total
Essex	227	188	198	209	204	236	201	180	209	1852
Worcester	157	169	152	213	169	193	161	155	189	1558
Middlesex	141	147	179	155	167	152	143	161	173	1418
Norfolk	118	123	99	116	109	123	110	90	99	987
Plymouth	84	86	72	93	98	118	94	104	97	846
Bristol	1	2	2	2	0	2	1	2	1	13
Suffolk	2	6	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	12
Federal	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	2	9
Out-of-State	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	7
Barnstable	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	4
Hampden	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	4
Mass Parole	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Berkshire	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	732	725	703	794	751	827	712	694	775	6713

## **Appendix**

### **Notes and Definitions**

Note: This report examines admission and release trends over the past nine quarters for the Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC). Unless otherwise stated, all trends in this report refer to the MA DOC jurisdiction population.

Note: Admission and Release data for this report was gathered in July of 2013. Numbers in this report may vary slightly from numbers in other reports due to the continuous updating of data and information in the Inmate Management System

<b>Admissions</b>	Inmates or detainees committed to a MA DOC facility as a “new court commitment”, “parole violator”, “transfer”, “probation violator”, “pre-trial detainee”, a “civil commitment” or other admission through legal means. “Other” admissions include: “Re-admit from Court Release” and “Return from Escape”.
<b>Pre-Trial Detainee</b>	An individual who is detained prior to trial, but not yet convicted of a crime to include male and female county detainees, male county detainees transferred to state facilities under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 276, section 52A, and federal detainees (both male and female).
<b>Civil Commitment or “Civil”</b>	The involuntary commitment of an individual via legal means to incarcerate an individual against their will.
<b>Criminally Sentenced</b>	An individual who has been found guilty of a criminal offense through legal means, and is required to be incarcerated.
<b>Custody Population</b>	An individual is considered to be in Massachusetts DOC custody when they are being held in a Massachusetts DOC facility.
<b>Expiration of Sentence (Release)</b>	An inmate is discharged from his sentence at the expiration of his term, less any statutory or earned good time. Statutory good time was eliminated for all offenses committed after June 30, 1994, due to the enactment of the “Truth in Sentencing” law.
<b>HOC</b>	House of Correction, i.e. county jail.
<b>Jurisdiction Population</b>	An individual is considered to be under Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction when the Commonwealth has legal authority over the individual regardless of where the inmate is being held to include those incarcerated in Massachusetts DOC facilities as well as those housed in correctional facilities outside of the Massachusetts DOC (Massachusetts Houses of Correction, other state’s correctional facilities and the Federal Bureau of Prisons).
<b>MA DOC</b>	Massachusetts Department of Correction, i.e. state prison.

**Parole (Releases)**

Inmates released on parole are under the supervision of parole while in the community and may be re-incarcerated for violating the terms of their supervision. Unless otherwise specified, parole to other authority may include: "Parole to Out of State Sentence", "Parole to Federal Authority", "Parole to Immigration", "Parole to From & After HOC Sentence", "Parole to Warrant", "Parole to From & After DOC Sentence", or "Parole to Civil Commitment". "Other" releases include: "HABEAS to Court – Received Forthwith Sentence", "Escape", "Death", "Court Release – Sentence Revoked", "Release to From and After at DOC", and "Release from Weekend Sentence".

**Probation**

Probation is a court-ordered sanction placed on a person convicted of a crime. The offender is allowed to remain in the community under the strict supervision of a probation officer.

**Release to Street**

A release to street occurs when an inmate is released from the custody of the Massachusetts DOC by way of parole or discharge to the street. Conditions warranting a release to street include: Parole, Good Conduct Discharge (GCD), and Expiration of Sentence.

**Releases**

A release occurs when an inmate is released from the custody of the Massachusetts DOC by way of expiration of sentence, parole, a non-DOC release to other jurisdiction, a court release or other legal release from the custody of MA DOC.

**Drug Lab Releases**

Issues regarding accuracy of testing at the Hinton Drug Lab resulted in several hundred releases "from court", primarily during the months of September-November, 2012.